

Michele Meyers
6090 Shepherd Hills Avenue
Allentown, Pennsylvania 18106

January 10, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I was happy to learn that the Justice Department has decided to settle its antitrust case against Microsoft. The legal battle has drained the country's resources for more than three years now, and it is time to get our national focus back on more important issues. The settlement is eminently fair, and should address the concerns of all involved parties.

Any criticism of the settlement coming from Microsoft's competitors stems purely from their own self-interest. Microsoft has given more than what was asked by the Department of Justice. First, Microsoft has agreed to increase competition in the marketplace by granting their competitors access to information about the internal workings of Windows. With this information, the competitors will be able to install their own programs on the Windows operating system, enabling them to compete with Microsoft on Microsoft's "own turf." Additionally, Microsoft will agree not to take any action against any company that sells, uses, or promotes products made by non-Microsoft companies. I wonder if any of Microsoft's competitors would be as generous.

This settlement gives us a viable opportunity to get past this messy legal conflict and move on to more pressing issues. I support it, and hope it is implemented soon.

Sincerely,



Michele Meyers

cc: Senator Rick Santorum